

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 04089 280724Z

12

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BOOK-915 (ISO) W

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P 280703Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2204

S E C R E T TAIPEI 4089

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: U.S. BICENTENNIAL

REF: A. STATE 139668; B. TAIPEI A-120, JULY 6, 1973

1. WE WILL SEEK APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN WASHINGTON'S DECISION, AS REQUESTED PARA 6 REF A. HOWEVER, YOU ARE NO DOUBT AWARE THAT THE GROG REACTION MAY BE VERY BITTER INDEED. REFERENCE BY DCM CHEN TO JULY 4, 1973 INVITATION LED US TO CONSULT FILES WHICH REVEAL THAT INVITATION WAS IN FACT EXTENDED FORMALLY BY AMBASSADOR MCCONAUGHY ON JULY 4 LAST YEAR IN FORM OF A NOTE STATING HE "...HAS THE HONOR TO PRESENT BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AN OFFICIAL INVITATION" ETC., ETC. THIS WAS EXTENDED PURSUANT TO CIRCULAR AIRGRAM NO. 5341 OF JUNE 21, 1973. AT THAT TIME, AS IS NOTED IN REF B, THE TENDERING OF THE INVITATION WAS ATTENDED BY CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY WHICH WAS FURTHER AMPLIFIED BY MENTION BY AMBASSADOR MCCONAUGHY IN HIS INDEPENDENCE DAY REMARKS TO THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY CLUB ON JULY 2, TO THE TAIPEI AMERICAN COMMUNITY AT ITS JULY 4 CELEBRATION, AND TO THE TAIPEI ROTARY CLUB ON JULY 5.

2. EXPLAINING WASHINGTON'S DECISION WILL BE COMPLICATED BY THE ABSENCE AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE OF ANY PERTINENT CHANGES IN THE SITUATION IN
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THE YEAR THAT HAS INTERVENED SINCE THE INVITATION

WAS EXTENDED. IF THERE ARE ANY SUCH CHANGES TO
WHICH WE COULD REFER, PLEASE INFORM US AT ONCE.
UNGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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